



NEWBURYPORT

Essex County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

Newburyport is among the smallest cities in the state and is felt with some justification by its residents to be among the most beautiful, retaining as it does a large number of spacious, gracious Federalist homes built with the whaling and clipper ship fortunes of this 19th century seaport.

The city is very proud of its history: proud of the fact that the first tea party in opposition to England's tax on tea was held in Newburyport, well before the more famous one in Boston, and pleased to be the birthplace of the United States Coast Guard since the first ship commissioned for the Coast Guard, the frigate Massachusetts, was built in the city.

Protective of its heritage, the city launched a massive redevelopment scheme in the early 1960's, using state and federal funds to reclaim its historic neighborhoods of granite, brick and cobblestones and provide up-to-date infrastructure such as water and sewer renovations. But however steeped in the past, the city did not neglect to prepare for a lively present and built an industrial park at the same time, which now houses diversified small industries. The city has a strong tourist industry and was the first community in the state to complete a master plan and a harbor plan. Its adjacent river is used for recreation and its old fire station now houses a theatre and restaurant. Many residents of the heavily residential community commute daily to Boston, and wait in hopes that the last 9 miles of the railroad route between Boston and Newburyport will be completed soon. It is expected that the completion of that link would encourage the growth of the community.

Residents are proud of the fact that many families have lived in the city for generations, and equally proud of the fact that the city welcomes newcomers and the new ideas they bring.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Northeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Newbury on the south, West Newbury on the west, Amesbury and Salisbury on the north, and the Atlantic Ocean on the east. Newburyport is located at the mouth of the Merrimack River, 14 miles east of Haverhill; 30 miles north of Boston; 70 miles south of Portland, Maine; and about 255 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 10.58 sq. miles

Land Area: 8.38 sq. miles

Population: 16,317

Density: 1,947 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Haverhill Station)

Normal temperature in January.....24.7°F

Normal temperature in July.....72.5°F

Normal annual precipitation.....44.4"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Newburyport West, Newburyport East

Regional Planning Agency

Merrimack Valley Region

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (978) 465-4412

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Mayor-Council

Year Incorporated

As a town:

As a city: 1851

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	11,104		
Democrats	3,533	31.8	%
Republicans	1,756	15.8	%
Other parties	4	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	5,811	52.3	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Newburyport city, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	17,189	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	17,189	100.0
Male.....	7,982	46.4	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	151	0.9
Female.....	9,207	53.6	Mexican.....	28	0.2
Under 5 years.....	972	5.7	Puerto Rican.....	38	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	985	5.7	Cuban.....	13	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,031	6.0	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	72	0.4
15 to 19 years.....	808	4.7	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	17,038	99.1
20 to 24 years.....	519	3.0	White alone.....	16,753	97.5
25 to 34 years.....	2,285	13.3	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	3,328	19.4	Total population.....	17,189	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	3,066	17.8	In households.....	16,807	97.8
55 to 59 years.....	1,066	6.2	Householder.....	7,519	43.7
60 to 64 years.....	715	4.2	Spouse.....	3,584	20.9
65 to 74 years.....	1,194	6.9	Child.....	4,341	25.3
75 to 84 years.....	841	4.9	Own child under 18 years.....	3,351	19.5
85 years and over.....	379	2.2	Other relatives.....	482	2.8
Median age (years).....	40.9	(X)	Under 18 years.....	132	0.8
18 years and over.....	13,638	79.3	Nonrelatives.....	881	5.1
Male.....	6,181	36.0	Unmarried partner.....	436	2.5
Female.....	7,457	43.4	In group quarters.....	382	2.2
21 years and over.....	13,299	77.4	Institutionalized population.....	283	1.6
62 years and over.....	2,836	16.5	Noninstitutionalized population.....	99	0.6
65 years and over.....	2,414	14.0	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	919	5.3	Total households.....	7,519	100.0
Female.....	1,495	8.7	Family households (families).....	4,429	58.9
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,949	25.9
One race.....	17,092	99.4	Married-couple family.....	3,584	47.7
White.....	16,864	98.1	With own children under 18 years.....	1,532	20.4
Black or African American.....	73	0.4	Female householder, no husband present.....	636	8.5
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	21	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	343	4.6
Asian.....	105	0.6	Nonfamily households.....	3,090	41.1
Asian Indian.....	13	0.1	Householder living alone.....	2,492	33.1
Chinese.....	39	0.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	730	9.7
Filipino.....	9	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	2,046	27.2
Japanese.....	8	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,619	21.5
Korean.....	24	0.1	Average household size.....	2.24	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	2.90	(X)
Other Asian ¹	12	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	2	-	Total housing units.....	7,897	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	7,519	95.2
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	378	4.8
Samoan.....	1	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	180	2.3
Some other race.....	27	0.2	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.6	(X)
Two or more races.....	97	0.6	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	3.9	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	7,519	100.0
White.....	16,959	98.7	Owner-occupied housing units.....	5,010	66.6
Black or African American.....	105	0.6	Renter-occupied housing units.....	2,509	33.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	54	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.49	(X)
Asian.....	135	0.8	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.73	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	8	-			
Some other race.....	37	0.2			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	166
Conventional Federal:	50

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	14
Federal (Section 8):	81



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The development of transportation resources in the Merrimack River Valley, where Newburyport is situated, was shaped by the history of the region as a major site of American industrial development in the nineteenth century. The area has exceptionally good highway and rail facilities linking the major cities and towns to each other and to the port, airport, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are U.S. 1 and Interstate Route 95, which forms an interchange with Interstate Route 495 in the neighboring town of Salisbury.

Rail

There is no passenger or freight rail service in Newburyport, but the network of intermodal facilities serving Massachusetts is easily accessible.

Bus

Newburyport is not affiliated with a regional transit authority. The Coach Company offers frequent commuter service to Boston.

Other

The Newburyport-Plum Island Airport is a privately owned public-use facility located 1 mi SE of town. It has a 2,520'x 50' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

The Custom House Maritime Museum of Newburyport
25 Water Street
(978) 462-8681

Historical Society of Old Newbury, Cushing House Museum
98 High Street
(617) 462-2681

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Anna Jaques Hospital

Long Term Care

Brigham Manor Convalescent Home

Country Manor Rehab. & Nursing Center

Port Rehab. & Skilled Nursing Center

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

Newburyport Society-Aged Men

Newburyport Society-Aged Women

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.